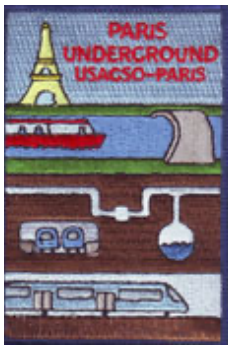
USA Girl Scouts Overseas
Paris, France



Paris Underground

Email parispatches@usagso.org for order information.

You may have already earned the Paris Worlds to Explore Patch either by visiting Paris or by fulfilling the requirements through independent research online or in your local library. Now you can earn another patch by exploring the Paris underground. The Michelin Guide, a map of Paris, a Paris metro map and various websites will be very helpful to you as you earn this patch.

Visit or learn about as many sites as you can and then answer the questionnaires. Keep a scrapbook of tickets, photos or sketches of anything you have visited during your research. And if you discover any other underground sites in Paris or the close suburbs, please give that information to your leader so that she can send it to the Paris Patch Coordinator.

Minimum time to complete the patch if visiting Paris in person: 2-4 days

Requirements: Visit or learn about at least one underground site from each part of the information section and follow the instructions to complete the Metro quizzes at the end. The answer key is at the very end of this document.

Good luck!

Paris Underground Information Section

Part I - CRYPTS and CATACOMBS

a. Maison d'Ourscamp
44-46 rue François Miron, 75004 Paris, Metro: St Paul
http://www.paris-historique.org/

b. Archeological Crypt of the parvis of Notre Dame Cathedral
Place de Parvis Notre Dame, Ile de La Cité, 75004 Paris, Metro: Cité
http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paris/hist/nd-crypt.html

c. The Louvre (medieval Louvre)
Rue de Rivoli, 75001 Paris, Metro: Palais Royal-Musée de Louvre
https://www.louvre.fr/en (search for medieval Louvre)

d. Basilica Saint Denis
93000 Saint Denis, Metro: Basilique de Saint-Denis
www.monum.fr and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Denis_Basilica

e. Panthéon
Place du Panthéon, 75005 Paris, Metro: Maubert-Mutualité et Cardinal-Lemoine RER B: Luxembourg
www.monum.fr
http://www.aviewoncities.com/paris/pantheon.htm

f. Catacombes

1 place Denfert-Rocherau, 75014 Paris, Metro: Denfert-Rochereau, lines 4, 6 and RER B
https://www.catacombes.paris.fr/en

g. Mémorial de la Déportation
Square de l'Ile de France, Ile de la Cité, 75004, Paris, Metro: Cité
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_de_la_Deportation

Paris Underground Information Section

Part II - TRANSPORTATION

a. The Paris underground system of the Metro and the RER
http://www.ratp.fr/
https://www.ratp.fr/en/titres-et-tarifs/tourist-tickets-and-passes
https://www.ratp.fr/en
http://metrorama.free.fr

b. Maison de la RATP (in the lobby one can see restored metro wagons)
189 rue de Bercy, 75012 Paris, Metro: line 14, Gare de Lyon

c. The Canal Saint Martin

Canauxrama
13 quai de la Loire, 75019 Paris (consult their website for boarding points)
http://www.canauxrama.com/e_index.html

Paris-Canal
19-21 quai de la Loire, 75019 Paris (consult their website for boarding points)
https://www.pariscanal.com/

Part III - FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT AND SHOPPING

a. Carrousel du Louvre
Under the Louvre museum, Metro: Palais Royal-Musée du Louvre
https://www.louvre.fr/en/visit-the-louvre/carrousel-du-louvre

b. Forum des Halles
Metro: Châtelet-Les Halles, also RER A and B
http://www.aviewoncities.com/paris/forumdeshalles.htm
https://www.forumdesimages.fr/ (re-opened in December 2008)

c. Musée du vin
5-7 square Charles-Dickens, 5 rue des Eaux, 75016 Paris, Metro: Passy
www.museeduvinparis.com

Paris Underground Information Section

Part IV - WATER

a. Hôtel de Cluny
6 place Paul-Painlevé, Metro: Cluny-La Sorbonne
http://www.musee-moyenage.fr/ang/homes/home_id20392_u1l2.htm

b. Fontaine des Innocents
Square des Innocents, 75001 Paris, Metro: Châtelet ou Les Halles, also RER A and B
http://www.aviewoncities.com/paris/fontainedesinnocents.htm

c. La Maison du Fontainier (open for monthly visits)
42, ave. de l'Observatoire, 75014, 01 48 87 74 31, RER B: Port Royal
https://www.paris-historique.org/ (French)

d. Artesian Well
Square Lamartine, 193 avenue Victor-Hugo, 75016 Paris, Metro: Rue de la Pompe

e. Wallace Fountains
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wallace_fountains

f. Reservoirs of water for modern Paris
For a virtual tour, go to these websites:
http://www.paris-promenades.com/en/site_text/II-ii.htm
https://www.catacombes.paris.fr/en

g. Pavillon de L'Eau (educational exhibits for families)
77, avenue de Versailles, 75016 Paris, Metro: Mirabeau or RER C Javel
www.pavillondeleau.fr

h. Eau de Paris (website to visit)
9, rue Victor Schoelcher, 75675 Paris 14
www.eaudeparis.fr

i. Musée des égouts (sewer museum)
Entrance opposite 93 Quai d'Orsay, 75007 Paris, Metro : Alma-Marceau or RER C Pont d'Alma
http://europeforvisitors.com/paris/articles/paris-sewers-museum.htm

Paris Underground Information Section – Part V

MISCELLANEOUS

a. Bibliothèque François Mitterrand
Quai François-Mauriac, 75706 Paris Cedex 13, Metro: Bibliothèque François Mitterrand, line 14
www.bnf.fr

b. Parc du Buttes Chaumont
Metro: Buttes Chaumont or Botzaris
http://www.v1.paris.fr/en/Visiting/gardens/parc_buttes_chaumont.asp

c. Piscine des Halles
Suzanne Berlioux Sports Center, 10 place de la Rotonde, Level -3, Forum des Halles
Metro: Châtelet-Les Halles, also RER A and B
https://www.paris.fr/equipements/piscine-suzanne-berlioux-2997

Paris Underground Information Section – Part VI

JUST FOR FUN

Try to watch some of the following films or listen to the suggested songs.

Suggested films:

- Le Fabuleux Destin d'Amélie Poulain : Canal St Martin and several Metro stations
- The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Disney : catacombes /la cour des miracles
- Phantom of the Opera : underground lake under the Opera
- Les Misérables : les égouts (sewers)
- Zazie dans le métro : the metro
- Les Gaspards (The Down in the Hole Gang) : underground Paris & catacombs
- Hôtel du Nord : canal St Martin

Songs :

- Les Miz, the musical
- Notre Dame de Paris, the musical
- Serge Gainsbourg : Le poinçonneur des Lilas (métro)
- Charles Trenet : Y'a d'la joie (Paris)
- Edith Piaf : Le Métro de Paris

Paris Underground Quiz – Part I

I. Fill in the line numbers of the following Metro stations. *www.ratp.fr*

Metro line name	Metro number
Vaneau	
Rome	
Cité	
Pyrénées	
Plaisance	
Riquet	
Danube	
Dupleix	
Saint Georges	
Wagram	
Eglise de Pantin	
Commerce	
Voltaire	
Cour Saint-Emilion	
Bérault	
Pelleport	

Paris Underground Quiz – Part II

Match the Metro stations with the clues on the right

1) Abbesses	a) Vaccine against rabies
2) Arts et Métiers	b) Statues by Auguste Rodin
3) Assemblée Nationale	c) The history of Paris
4) Bastille	d) The “father” of the Métro
5) Cadet	e) Eurostar
6) Charles De Gaulle- Etoile	f) Potato plants
7) Châtelet- Les Halles	g) Belgian monuments
8) Cité	h) French Declaration of Human Rights
9) Cluny-la Sorbonne	i) Wrote Les Misérables
10) Concorde	j) Big ceramic reproductions of old French coins
11) Franklin D. Roosevelt	k) Copies of famous works of art
12) Gare du Nord	l) Phantom
13) Hôtel de Ville	m) White tiles with green tile friezes
14) Invalides	n) Events of the 20th century, decade by decade
15) Les Gobelins	o) 50th anniversary of the 5th French republic
16) Liège	p) French Revolution
17) Louvre-Rivoli	q) The only station on an island
18) Montparnasse-Bienvenüe	r) The deepest station in Paris
19) Opéra	s) World’s largest underground station
20) Parmentier	t) U.S. president
21) Pasteur	u) Mosaics: birds and 50 signatures on ceiling
22) Pont Neuf	v) 12 streets come together here
23) Sèvres-Babylone	w) Jules Vernes submarine
24) Tuileries	x) Red, white and blue mosaic of La Fayette
25) Varenne	y) Tapestry manufacture
26) Victor Hugo	z) Napoleon’s tomb

Paris Underground Quiz – Part III

Answer at least 15 questions. Try to answer more if you have time!

1) Why were the quarries dug under Paris?

2) Are there bunkers under Paris?

3) Do they grow mushrooms (champignons de Paris) in the quarries?

4) What is the name of the underground river that empties into the Seine?

5) Is there really a lake under the Opéra de Paris?

6) The metro cars used to be red and green; what did the colors stand for?

7) When was the first metro put into operation?

8) What is the metro's full name?

9) Who designed the original « art nouveau » entrances?

10) In what cities can you find the « art nouveau » entrances now?

11) A unique entrance made of metal, glass and ceramic was built in the year 2000; on what line can you find it and what is its name?

12) What is the yearly/monthly pass called?

13) From which metro line can you see the Eiffel Tower?

14) How many languages can the yellow rabbit on metro doors speak?

15) How many metro lines are there in all?

16) What is a "station fantôme"? Give an example.

Paris Underground Quiz – Part III continued

17) Which metro line is the most recent? What is its nickname? What is its particularity?

18) How are the sewer galleries cleaned?

19) How did the people use to visit the sewers?

20) When were the catacombs established? Why?

21) How are the bones arranged?

22) How deep underground are the Catacombs?

23) How long is the Canal St Martin? How many locks and swing bridges are there on it?

24) Who ordered the construction of the Canal St Martin?

25) What was first discovered in the archeological crypt under the "parvis" of Notre Dame Cathedral?

26) What are the dimensions of the archeological crypt of Notre Dame?

27) What is a "cataphile"?

28) Where are most of the Kings and Queens of France buried?

29) Where are many heroes of the French republic buried?

30) Where can you find a cellar with gothic arches and a well?

31) Where can you find the remains of a castle with a moat and drawbridge?

32) Who built the castle? Why?

Paris Underground Quiz – Part III continued

33) Where can you learn about the method the Romans used to heat their houses?

34) What was the original site of Les Halles used for?

35) What does Eole stand for? Explain what Eole is.

36) Where can you find a monument with 200,000 lighted crystal points? What do they represent?

37) Where can you find the ruins of Roman baths?

38) What does the Fontaine des Innocents represent?

39) Name the 5 reservoirs of drinking water for Paris.

40) Name a water reservoir of Paris used in the 18th and 19th centuries.

41) What are some other uses of Paris's old quarries?

42) Where can you find underground reading rooms with an underground forest?

43) Explain how the Parc de Buttes Chaumont was built.

44) Explain what a bell hole is ("cloche de fontis"); why can it be dangerous?

45) Explain the origin of the Wallace fountains.

46) List any underground sites in Paris that you know about and that are not mentioned in this quiz.

Paris Underground Quiz – Part I ANSWER KEY

Fill in the line numbers of the following Metro stations. *www.ratp.fr*

Metro line name	Metro number
Vaneau	10
Rome	2
Cité	4
Pyrénées	11
Plaisance	13
Riquet	7
Danube	7 bis
Dupleix	6
Saint Georges	12
Wagram	3
Eglise de Pantin	5
Commerce	8
Voltaire	9
Cour Saint-Emilion	14
Bérault	1
Pelleport	3 bis

Paris Underground Quiz – Part II ANSWER KEY

Match the Metro stations with the clues on the right

1r 2w 3o 4p 5x 6v 7s 8q 9u 10h 11t 12e 13c 14z

15y 16g 17k 18d 19l 20f 21a 22j 23m 24n 25b 26i

Paris Underground Quiz – Part III ANSWER KEY

1) To obtain limestone and gypsum to be used in construction

2) Yes, the Germans installed bunkers in an old quarry during World War II and the "Résistants" hid under the Place Denfert-Rochereau.

3) Not anymore but 100 years ago, they produced 25 tons of mushrooms per day. Today mushrooms are cultivated outside of Paris.

4) La Bièvre

5) It is not really a lake but a concrete basin that holds water because the Opera was built on marshy terrain.

6) Red: first class, Green: second class

7) The first metro starting running in 1900.

8) Métropolitan

9) Hector Guimard

10) There are still many such entrances left in Paris. There is an original one in Montreal and copies in Mexico City, Chicago, Lisbon, and Moscow.

11) The entrance is called the "Kiosque des Noctambules". It is on line 7, station Palais Royal-Musée du Louvre, near the Comédie Française.

12) Pass Navigo

13) On line 6, between Bir Hakeim and Passy

14) The yellow rabbit speaks 5 languages: French, English, German, Spanish and Italian.

15) There are 16 lines: 14 main lines and 2 extra lines (3bis and 7bis).

16) A "station fantôme" is a metro station which was built but never opened to thepublic for either historical or commercial reasons. Porte Molitor/Murat is one of them; it was supposed to open near the Parc des Princes stadium.

17) Line 14 is the most recent; it opened in 1998. It is also called Météor. It is completely automatic and has no driver.

18) By rolling a large wooden ball to force the water down the siphons under the Seine. The workers also use sluice carts and sluice boats to flush the water through the sewers.

19) By boat. Since 1972, people can visit only certain parts of the sewers by foot on special walkways. For health reasons the boats are no longer used for the public.

20) The Catacombs were established at the end of the 18th century when the cemetery of the Holy Innocents, one of the largest cemeteries in Paris was closed for public health reasons. The bones from this cemetery and many others were moved to the abandoned Tombe-Issoire quarry.

21) The long bones and skulls are arranged in neat rows to form walls. Behind these walls the other bones are piled in a jumble. The catacombs hold the remains of an estimated 6 million Parisiens.

22) The Catacombs are 50 meters deep.

23) The Canal St Martin is 4.5 km long. It has 9 locks and 2 swing bridges.

24) Napoleon ordered the construction of the Canal St Martin; it opened in 1825.

25) Gallo-Roman vestiges, medieval cellars and foundations of streets and buildings were discovered in the crypt under the parvis of Notre Dame.

26) The crypt of Notre Dame is 117 meters long by 28 meters wide.

27) "Cataphile" is a French world to designate someone who likes to explore the quarries that are closed to the public in areas forbidden by the police (because they are very dangerous).

28) In the crypt of the Basilica of Saint Denis

29) In the crypt of the Panthéon

30) In the Maison d'Ourscamp

31) Under the Cour Carrée of the Louvre museum

32) Philippe Auguste built it to protect Paris from the English.

33) In the archeological crypt under the Parvis of Notre Dame

34) It was the original food market for Paris.

35) Est-Ouest-Liaison-Express. It is the part of the RER line E between Gare Saint-Lazare and Gare du Nord which was opened in 1999. It was one of the France's largest underground construction sites.

36) In the "Mémorial de la Déportation". The crystal points represent the 200,000 people deported from France to the Nazi camps

37) Hôtel de Cluny

38) It stands on the site of the old cemetery of the Holy Innocents.

39) Ménilmontant, l'Haÿ-les-Roses, Montsouris, St Cloud and Les Lilas.

40) Maison du fontainier

41) Some of Paris's quarries were also used to age cheeses or for wine cellars.

42) Bibliothèque François Mitterrand

43) It was built over abandoned gypsum quarries. This accounts for its steep hills and grottos.

44) A bell hole is an area where the ceiling of a quarry stats to fall down. If it is not reinforced it can cave in and cause the houses built over it to collapse.

45) In the late 19th century, Sir Richard Wallace financed the building of the fountains to allow poor people free access to drinking water.

46)

The Paris Underground patch was a USAGSO-Paris Silver Award project

by Sophie, Hélène and Jenna, SGS 14 in 2009

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